



Indiana Department of Education

Glenda Ritz, NBCT

Indiana Superintendent of Public Instruction

SIG Monthly

August 2014

**Title I Team: Charlie Geier, Rachael Havey, Cindy Hurst,
and (starting August 18th) Audrey Carnahan**



August Feature SIG School – Chamberlain Elementary – Goshen Community Schools – Cohort V

Chamberlain Elementary was recently featured in Elkhart Truth:

<http://www.elkharttruth.com/news/schools/2014/07/30/1-75-million-grant-lets-Chamberlain-Elementary-start-teaching-in-a-new-way.html>

Chamberlain Elementary School in Goshen Indiana is excited to begin the journey and partner with the IDOE –Title I office to implement our School Improvement Grant (SIG) for the upcoming years! Our intention and plan for the utilization of the SIG will provide an opportunity to participate in a partnership with Expeditionary Learning, increase parent involvement, and increase the use of technology for our students.

With absolute excitement, Team Chamberlain, including our students, staff, families, and community around us are thrilled at the opportunity to utilize this funding to make a great impact with our students! Our students will be able to benefit from increased engagement, quality instruction, and as always, a caring and supportive staff. We continue to strive to establish high reaching goals for learning, scaffold instruction to increase student achievement, and keep the best interest of the student at the forefront of all decision-making.

Expeditionary learning is an approach to teaching and learning that is both robust and rigorous! Learning in an Expeditionary Learning school is active, challenging, meaningful, public and most certainly collaborative. Students, staff, and families, are part of what Expeditionary Learning Schools refer to as “Crews”. In learning, we are crew, not passengers. We all contribute and learn.

The grant will fund an extended teacher day that will include professional learning communities, professional development, and planning for instructional time that will be impactful for our students and staff! Our teachers will be positively impacted by a partnership contract with expeditionary learning, participation in professional development both on site and at Expeditionary Learning Institutes, along with site visits to current Expeditionary Learning Schools where they will utilize opportunities to collaborate and learn from schools that have partnered and experienced success with Expeditionary Learning. Technology is certainly a component of the grant funding, our students will be able to utilize mobile laptops and mobile iPad labs.

As principal, I am thankful for the devoted staff and team approach that we have at Chamberlain. This intense learning, and journey toward school improvement can't be accomplished without teamwork! The Title I Specialists have been very supportive from the start of this process and our team looks forward to a partnership with them for school improvement. We at Chamberlain will never feel like we have ever “arrived” at improving, it is a continuous path toward greatness!

Kimberly E. Branham, Principal



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Monthly Updates

- Our new Title I Specialist – Audrey Carnahan – will be starting August 18th!
- We have received our SIG Federal Monitoring Report from USDE. We will be working diligently this year to update our program – this will involve data dashboards, closer examination of key SIG components through onsite, virtual, and desktop monitoring, and more technical assistance for our SIG schools.
- IDOE submitted its application for a waiver from aspects of No Child Left Behind June 30th. The application was submitted to the USDE. A copy of the waiver application can be found at <http://www.doe.in.gov/esea>. The waiver directly affects you and your schools and we highly encourage you to read it. The Indiana Department of Education is currently awaiting word from the United States Department of Education regarding the state's waiver from certain aspects of No Child Left Behind. Despite media reports to the contrary, no decision has been made by the federal government regarding Indiana's waiver. According to a press release from the United States Department of Education yesterday, Indiana is one of nearly 20 states that currently have waiver requests pending.
- If you haven't already – please join the IDOE – I003g Grant Recipients Learning Connection Community today! <https://learningconnection.doe.in.gov>
- Our goal for 2014-2015 newsletters is to highlight one to two SIG schools each month (see Chamberlain above). Rachael will be contacting schools each month for information.
- Below you will find the SIG Title I Team member assigned to each school – we are a team and will continue to work with all of you as we have thus far, but below you will find the key contact person for your grant questions.

Title Staff	Cohort	School	Model
Cindy	5	Chamberlain Elementary School	Transformation
Audrey/Rachael	4	Allen Elementary	Transformation
Audrey/Rachael	5	John L McCulloch Junior High School	Transformation
Cindy	5	Lake Ridge Middle School	Transformation
Cindy	3	Dr. Bernard Watson Academy	Turnaround
Cindy	5	Stonybrook Middle School	Transformation
Rachael	3	Broad Ripple Magnet High School	Transformation
Rachael	4	Raymond Brandes, School 65	Transformation
Rachael	5	Fairview Elementary School	Transformation
Rachael	5	Highland Park Elementary School	Transformation
Cindy	3	Dickinson Fine Arts Academy	Transformation
Rachael	3	McGary Middle School	Transformation
Audrey/Rachael	5	Sarah Scott Middle School	Transformation
Audrey/Cindy	3	University Heights Preparatory Academy	Transformation
Cindy	3	21st Century School of Gary	Transformation



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Important Dates

August 27th – Data Dashboard WebEx

Times: 9:30 am (Indianapolis time) OR 4:00 pm (Indianapolis time) – schools are required to attend 1 time slot
WebEx Information will be sent out with a reminder closer to August 27th.

September 18th – Fall Leadership PD – Indianapolis – MSD of Warren Township

Building Leadership Team Members (and central office staff) are invited to attend

Registration: <http://www.doe.in.gov/titlei/sig-1003g-leadership-pd>

975 North Post Road, Indianapolis, IN 46219

9:00am – 3:00pm with lunch on your own (Indianapolis time)

Onsite Visits: 8:30 am – 1:30 pm

September 10th – Stonybrook MS, McGary MS

September 11th – Highland Park ES, Lake Ridge NTMS

September 30th – Fairview ES, University Heights PA

October 1st – BRMHS

October 2nd – Raymond Brandes ES

October 8th – Sarah Scott MS, 21st Century Charter

October 9th – Dr. Bernard Watson Academy

October 15th – McCulloch JHS, Chamberlain ES

October 16th – Allen ES, Dickinson FAA

Onsite Visit - September/October - Full Day

Time	Task	IDOE Team
8:00 - 8:30	IDOE Team Arrives	Title I/Outreach
8:30 - 9:30	Administrator/Leadership Team Collaborative Meeting	Title I/Outreach
9:30 - 11:00	Principal-Accompanied Classroom Observations	Outreach
9:30 - 10:15*	Other Leader-accompanied Classroom Observations	Title I
10:15 - 11:00*	SIG Specific Observations - PLC, Coaching, Intervention, etc.	Title I
11:00 - 11:30	Faculty/Staff Group Interviews	Outreach
11:00 - 11:30	Administrator/Leadership Team Collaborative Meeting - SIG Specific Focus	Title I
11:30 - 12:30	IDOE Prep Time	Title I/Outreach
12:30 - 1:30	Debrief Time with Administrator/Leadership Team	Title I/Outreach

*can rotate times above if needed

December 9th – Winter Leadership PD – North – Chamberlain ES

Registration and more information coming soon

December 11th – Winter Leadership PD – South – MCCSC

Registration and more information coming soon

Virtual Visits: more information coming soon

December 17th, 18th, 19th

January 7th, 8th, 9th



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Monthly Topic of Interest

NASTID Resources - SIG

School Turnaround Learning Community - USDE

<http://schoolturnaroundsupport.org/>

ELs in SIG Schools – a Focused Look

<http://ies.ed.gov/ncee/pubs/20144014/>

Reform Support Network

<http://www.icfi.com/insights/projects/families-and-communities/reform-support-network>

Leadership PD and Award Opportunity

Education Week

March 18, 2015 : [Leaders To Learn From 2015](#) in Washington, D.C. At this exclusive one-day event *Education Week* will recognize bold education leaders who have spearheaded positive change in their districts. You'll sit peer-to-peer with exceptional district leaders and discover the keys to their successes during engaging presentations, case studies, discussions, and networking opportunities. [Click here for more on why you should attend.](#)

[REGISTER BY AUGUST 31 and save 55% with this special Summer Discount.](#) Bring your team for additional group savings. Attend and you'll return to your district with advice and guidance—from high-profile superintendents as well as district leaders who've worked most of their careers below the public radar—to help you conquer the numerous and complex challenges you encounter every day. The day will also feature keynotes and Q&A with our special guests **Deborah S. Delisle, Assistant Secretary, U.S. Department of Education**, and **Michael Fullan, Special Advisor to the Premier and the Minister of Education, Ontario, Canada**. Empower your district—and yourself—by aligning with the brightest leaders in education. [Space is limited, so please register today.](#)

The Excellence in Performance Awards, totaling \$2 million, are awarded to school corporations and charter schools (corporations) for teachers rated [Highly Effective](#) for 2013-2014 in Title I Focus and Priority schools based on 2013 student achievement data. Those Highly Effective teachers must be in leadership roles during the 2014-2015 school year and a school corporation must have an evaluation plan that meets the requirements ([IC 20-28-11.5](#)) to be eligible. The purpose of this competitive grant is to retain Highly Effective teachers in Title I Focus and Priority schools. District or charter schools must submit a plan that places Highly Effective teachers in leadership roles that will utilize their talents to increase the capacity to develop more highly effective teachers. Late submissions will not be accepted. ***Since this round of Excellence in Performance grant is competitive, the district will need to decide the amount of cash award each Highly Effective teacher will receive through this grant for the leadership role.*** The IDOE will be allocating \$2 million for this grant during the 2014-2015 school year. For application information, [CLICK HERE](#). For more information visit the IDOE Evaluations webpage, <http://www.doe.in.gov/evaluations>